

BARRE DAILY TIMES

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Wilson speaks of a free sea. That is what Germany wants, along with some other things.

Barre's total fire loss of \$1,426.74 during the year 1916, as reported by Chief Gladding, was one of the lowest ever known in the history of the community for several decades. Let us continue to maintain as much vigilance—people and fire department alike.

The problem of tuberculosis is becoming more and more acute in Barre, the record of deaths from that disease in 1916 being the largest, we believe, ever known in the city. That cause and accidental deaths from various causes constitute the chief mortality statistics, and were it not for them the death rate per one thousand of the population would be remarkably low. One of the great needs of Barre at the present time is a sanatorium, to which persons in the incipient stages of tuberculosis might be taken for care and treatment; and we as a community will never do our full duty in this respect unless we establish such an institution, aided, perhaps, by some private benefactions.

WILSON'S LATEST MOVE FOR PEACE

While purporting to be directed chiefly toward the establishment of a permanent amity of the world at the close of the present hostilities, the remarkable address delivered by President Wilson before the Senate on Monday is, in effect, a new bid for the settlement of the issues involved in the present struggle. There can be little doubt of that. No amount of generalization about the common humanity, no allusions to the brotherhood of man, no hint about the idea of limited armament can swerve the mind from the thought that President Wilson's first and foremost effort was to keep alive the discussion of peace between the present combatants, regardless of what might be the developments as to permanent peace. It must be conceded that therein President Wilson was actuated by high motives, not alone with respect to the interests of the United States but also as regards the interests of the world. He has set his purpose to be the means, if possible, of ending the great conflict forthwith, or at least of bringing it to a more prompt conclusion than seemed possible after the central powers and the entente allies had responded to his request for terms on which peace conferences might be held. President Wilson apparently considers that to secure peace is to keep constantly before the belligerents the idea that peace is a desirable thing and that it can be consummated, perhaps, without marked loss of honor and prestige to either side. So President Wilson thrusts himself between the belligerents, so to speak.

What the result of his latest efforts will be is hard to conjecture. One hopes that the altruistic purpose of the executive might prove the second entering wedge of peace, but at the same time one is inclined to doubt the assertion made by him that peace must come in this war as between equals, with no victor and no vanquished, and that only on such a basis can permanent peace be attained. If the present war is to end in a draw, with the two sides maintaining virtually an even footing, there is no guarantee that they will not fight again. Human nature is no different in the mass than it is in the individual. Let two pugilistic individuals get into conflict and let the fight end in a draw, with both retaining a certain amount of vigor and assurance—let those conditions remain and, if there is a clash of rights, those two individuals will be likely to come to a clinch again. So it is with nations and with collections of nations—let their great conflict end in a draw and let them separate as virtually on an equal footing as regards power, and no influence on earth can serve to keep them at peace, once their paths cross. Ideally, President Wilson's position is good; practically, it will scarcely hold. These groups of nations must settle their differences in their own way if there is to be permanent peace, or anything approaching permanent peace. It is a brutal viewpoint to have, we admit, but nevertheless based on judgment of human nature in the individual and in the mass. Two years and one-half ago, one never would have dreamed, looking at the situation from the idealistic standpoint, that such a cataclysm as the present could take place; yet it broke forth with tremendous fury almost without warning. So an unsettled fight now cannot mean permanent peace when nations disregard treaties as shamefully as they have disregarded them during the past two and one-half years.



Even the wind is blowing about our overcoat. Come in and blow yourself to a 1917 model at \$19.17. Knee length, belted back, double-breasted, and planned out by a young designer whose sympathy, taste and interest is in getting up styles for young men.

Here's a few good, new-style, regular cut coats, priced \$12 each.

SPECIAL

Boys' overcoats, still going down, 25c each day, only a few left.

Just take a look in our window. Come in and look over our Bargain Counter.

F. H. Rogers & Company

Clothing and Furnishings

Do You Need Shoes?

If so, now is the time to buy them. We have some special good values in broken lots at greatly reduced prices, in men's, ladies', misses' and children's.

Many have taken advantage of this sale and have saved money. Why don't you?

Something different on our Bargain Table every day.

A few lines of men's heavy rubbers and overshoes in this sale.

Rogers' Walk-Over Boot Shop  
170 No. Main St.

BETTER CONDITIONS FOR WORKINGMEN RECOMMENDED

(Continued from first page.)

the most glaring defects. And when the work is completed next year the whole system will be greatly improved.

"During the past year the city has retired \$20,000 of bonds with only a slight reduction of the sinking fund from \$75,804.77 to \$74,012.11.

"The city has borrowed on its note \$25,000 in anticipation of water bonds. As some \$15,000 of this has already been used to improve the water system so that the \$10,000 balance of this note will reduce our cash balance of \$18,775.00 to about the same as last year.

"Would like to say one word in closing, about the zeal with which some of our ex-aldermen carried on their committee work, so as to make a good showing for their particular department.

"In looking over the inventories of the last few years in different departments, I find that city property in the line of tools and implements, undergoing constant hard usage for years, are still rated up to 1915 at almost cost price. For instance, our stone crusher, which is to be replaced by a new one in the spring, has been rated at cost price until this year, when it dropped to the sum allowed for it in exchange for a new one, an actual drop from \$1,800 to \$530. The steam roller, bought some fifteen years ago for \$3,500 depreciated according to inventory of 1915 only \$500 in fourteen years; this year I am pleased to see the committee dropped it to where it belongs, \$1,500, and it is the same right through in most every department. Those errors in appraisals for the purpose of making a good showing should be stopped.

"I greatly appreciate the courtesy with which every city official has treated me during the year, also for the willing assistance rendered by our city clerk and city attorney.

"Robert Gordon, Mayor."

WILLIAMSTOWN.

I will be at the town clerk's office Saturday, Jan. 27, to write orders for winter work on roads. Van D. McAllister, road commissioner.

TO ASK \$2.60 TAX RATE FOR THE YEAR 1917

(Continued from first page.)

for this department will also provide means enough to keep all of the apparatus up to its present standard of efficiency.

Six thousand dollars has been appropriated to the police department, and it is proposed to add one more patrolman to the present force, this addition together with the telephone system installed last year will place the department in a position where it can give the service that is absolutely necessary in this community.

Liberal appropriations have been made to provide for the needs of the poor, health and other departments under the control of the city council, so that the rendering in the past may be fully maintained.

A 70-cent school tax (the limit allowed by our charter) has been provided for the maintenance of our schools, also a tax of two cents for the support of the evening drawing school.

Provision has also been made for the usual addition to the city's sinking fund; taking up the school bonds maturing in 1917; and placing the surplus revenue of the water department in the water sinking fund. The showing made by the water department last year gives us every reason to believe that when the present plans for improvement have been completed, the surplus of earnings over maintenance charges will amply provide the means necessary to meet the water debt as it becomes due.

We respectfully refer the citizens to the reports of the various departments and committees for the details of the work of the past year, and trust that the same will meet with their approval.

Estimated Income 1917.

Cash balance Jan. 1, 1917.	\$18,775.00
Income from taxation.	159,000.00
Delinquent taxes.	1,500.00
Temporary loan anticipation of taxes.	47,000.00
Bridge and paving bonds.	47,000.00
Water bonds.	25,000.00
Street, sidewalk and sewer assessments.	3,250.00
Street sprinkling assessments.	2,500.00
Material sold and work by street department.	1,000.00
Water department income.	32,000.00
Rents.	1,500.00
Engineering department.	1,200.00
Fire department.	800.00
Poor department.	750.00
Share state highway tax.	340.00
State aid for resurfacing.	1,000.00
State aid for permanent highways 1916.	1,000.00
State aid for permanent highways 1917.	1,000.00
Show licenses.	1,100.00
Peddler and other licenses.	375.00
Dog licenses.	600.00
Cemetery trust funds.	2,000.00
Interest.	1,500.00
Miscellaneous.	1,000.00
Ministerial fund.	81.51
Total.	\$352,275.41

Estimated Expenses 1917.

State highway.	\$2,340.00
Resurfacing state highways.	2,000.00
Streets and new crushing plant.	14,000.00
Permanent streets.	38,000.00
Lighting streets.	7,500.00
Street sprinkling.	2,600.00
Sewers.	1,200.00
Surface sewers.	2,500.00
Sidewalks.	4,000.00
Bridges and culverts.	17,100.00
Engineering.	1,800.00
Water department.	41,000.00
Salaries.	5,300.00
Miscellaneous.	2,000.00
City buildings.	2,500.00
Fire department.	12,000.00
Poor department.	10,000.00
Health department.	2,000.00
Births and deaths.	275.00
Police department.	6,000.00
Insurance.	1,100.00
State and county taxes.	10,500.00
Printing and stationery.	1,000.00
City records.	1,000.00
Interest.	10,840.00
City schools.	44,350.00
Evening drawing school.	1,300.00
Temporary loan.	48,000.00
Water loan notes.	25,000.00
Current sinking fund.	10,200.00
Water department sinking fund.	12,000.00
Notes and bonds paid.	5,000.00
Dog licenses and damage.	325.00
Elections.	357.00
Society orders.	81.51
Driving license.	250.00
Assessing taxes.	1,200.00
Band concerts and amusements.	1,000.00
Refunding cemetery trust funds.	1,250.00
Hydrant rentals.	2,700.00
Care public parks.	400.00
Cemetery trust funds.	2,000.00
Heien C. Wood fund.	20.20
Memorial day.	150.00
Aldrich public library.	300.00
Total.	\$351,917.01

Comparative Statement of City's Indebtedness.

	Due Jan. 1, 1916.	Due Jan. 1, 1917.
4 per cent refunding bonds payable July 1, 1919.	\$57,500.00	\$57,500.00
4 per cent refunding bonds due June 1, 1916.	15,000.00	
4 per cent Lincoln school bonds due \$5,000 yearly.	20,000.00	15,000.00
4 per cent North Barre school bonds due April 1, 1934.	49,000.00	49,000.00
4 per cent Spaulding addition school bonds due Oct. 1, 1934.	65,500.00	65,500.00
4 per cent Hope cemetery notes, demand.	8,133.80	8,133.80
4 per cent Elmwood cemetery notes, demand.	5,887.85	5,887.85
Temporary loan note in anticipation of issue of water bonds, due July 1, 1917.		25,000.00
Accrued interest on refunding bonds.	100.00	
Accrued interest on school bonds.	1,406.66	1,345.00
Unreported debts, estimated.	4,500.00	5,200.00
Total.	\$227,048.31	\$229,586.65
Increase in bonded and other indebtedness.		\$2,538.34

Assets.	Jan. 1, 1916.	Jan. 1, 1917.
Cash on hand.	\$9,109.81	\$18,775.00
Sinking fund.	75,864.77	74,012.11
Water sinking fund.		4,258.16
Uncollected taxes, collector's account.	8,827.73	9,821.63
C. V. R. R. Co. 1913 tax.	183.38	183.38
Street, sewer, and sidewalk assessments.	2,102.63	1,509.87
Street sprinkling assessments.	518.79	1,348.18
Change of river, assessments.	288.71	288.71
Rents and bills receivable.	253.00	278.82
Water department balance 1916.		3,705.57
Total.	\$97,238.82	\$114,275.03
Increase in assets.		\$17,036.21

The Vital Statistics.

Interesting statistics are furnished by City Health Officer Dr. J. W. Stewart, who refers to 1916 as a year in which 157 deaths were reported, 206 births—134 males and 132 females—and 109 cases of contagious diseases were registered. Comparatively speaking, he says the year was fairly free from contagious diseases. With season more deaths added to the toll of 1916, tuberculosis continues to be the most menacing malady. Due precaution was taken against importing infantile paralysis and perhaps as a result Barre was entirely free from the scourge. Measles was prevalent and in this connection the health officer recommends medical inspection in the public schools as a preventive measure against further outbreaks of diseases that are contagious, but not wholly dangerous. Reports received from the state laboratory of hygiene during the year indicated that the city's water supplies are pure. In closing the doctor recommends that a health officer be employed who can devote his whole time to the work.

Tuberculosis, with a toll of 36 persons, set the pace for the necrology roll. There were 19 violent deaths, 12 by accident, 6 by suicide and 1 by homicide. Pneumonia took away 9, disease of the heart 13, cancer of the kidneys 10 and cancer of the stomach 10. The complete list follows: Atelectasis 1, apoplexy 7, accidental 12, angina pectoris 5, bronchitis 2, cancer 5, cholera infantum 2, tuberculosis 36, convulsions 1, cystitis 1, arthritis deformans 1, diabetes 2, disease of the heart 12, disease of the kidneys 10, disease of the liver 2, disease of the brain 2, unknown 1, enteritis 1, epilepsy 1, erysipelas 1, scarlet fever 1, typhoid fever 2, grip 2, hemorrhage 3, homicide 1, inflammation 3, influenza 1, meningitis 2, pyelitis 1, old age 3, pneumonia 3, peritonitis 3, pneumonia 9, premature birth 7, surgical shock 1, suicide 6. Nine persons died who were between the ages of 80 and 100, 18 between 70 and 80, 18 between 60 and 70, 20 between 50 and 60, 29 between 40 and 50, 10 between 30 and 40, 9 between 20 and 30, 9 between 10 and 20, 6 between 5 and 10, 7 between 1 and 5, and 22 under 1.

The 109 cases of contagious diseases were divided as follows: Diphtheria 3, erysipelas 1, measles 40, scarlet fever 37, chicken pox 4, typhoid fever 3, whooping cough 31. In its annual brief, the aldermanic health committee stated that a man had been employed at the city dump two days of each week and that the department had carried on the garbage collections since Aug. 1, when the contract with S. D. Sibley expired.

Street Committee Report.

The annual report of the street committee reveals appropriations aggregating \$39,890, expenditures of \$30,631.91, with a balance of \$8,258.09. Its accounting of the 1916 stewardship is given in the following words: Street department appropriations aggregated \$39,890 and the expenditures amounted to \$30,631.91, leaving a balance of \$8,258.09. Mention is made of the purchase of an auto truck and a motor to replace the boiler and engine used in the crushing plant. Steps leading up to the authorization of bonds for the South Main street bridge project, the unsuccessful negotiations with the traction company for the payment of its share of the cost, the difficulty attendant upon the purchase of steel rails, and finally the decision to delay operations until spring are reviewed. Two courses remain open at the present time, the report says. One is to proceed with paving the city's portion, and on completion compel the traction company to pave its portion under penalty of forfeiture of its contract. The second course is to purchase suitable rails, pave the entire street and then attempt to secure payment for work done through further negotiations, or by the aid of the courts. Unexpected difficulties were met in efforts to replace the wooden bridge over

Jail branch. The lowest bid received for a granite structure was far in excess of the appropriation and the engineer has been directed to prepare plans for a bridge to cost not exceeding \$15,000, and new bids will be called for within a short time.

It is recommended that a larger crushing plant, centrally located, be installed and that the motor truck be extensively used in delivering crushed rock to all parts of the city. Waterbound macadam, so largely built in the past, is described by the committee as unsuitable and expensive for present traffic conditions. Emphasis is placed on the wisdom of building experimental pieces of the various types of hard surface highways, such as cement concrete, bituminous concrete and bituminous macadam. A patrol system in maintaining the streets is urged and it is thought that three horse teams would be sufficient for the work.

Other recommendations include permanent construction work on North Main street from Blackwell to Willey streets, and on Washington street from Elm to Nelson streets; also that the resurfacing on North Main street be continued north of Jones Bros' plant. A material increase in the amount of permanent sidewalks to be constructed and a system of establishing parkways between the walks and the curbs is advised. The street superintendent has been directed to allow for depreciation in preparing his inventories of equipment and stock.

Other Reports.

Much that is given in the reports of the fire chief and the chief of police has appeared in print already. In the fire department there were eight bell alarms and 46 still alarms. Property valued at \$156,520 was endangered, although the actual loss was only \$1,426.74, while the insurance paid amounted to \$1,276.74. The total amount of money expended for the department was \$9,457.69, which credits of \$579 reduced to \$8,878.69, the net cost. An inventory of departmental property accompanies the report. The police chief's report refers to 450 arrests, with intoxication and breach of the peace leading in the offenses. An inventory of police property is included.

From the city attorney comes the report that in the case of B. W. Hooker & Co. vs. the City of Barre, a verdict for the defendant was returned in county court and that the case was not carried to supreme court on an appeal. An old case, that of Collins et al vs. City of Barre, is to be argued in supreme court. Aside from that instance, the city is free from litigation, which City Atty. Wishart considers a fortunate circumstance. Many minor opinions were submitted by the attorney during the year. The printing committee reported that a contract with N. J. Roberts for printing the annual city report had been arranged. The contract includes 1,100 copies, of which 1,025 are to be paper covered and the remainder bound in cloth. Five hundred are to be delivered by Feb. 15,

and the remainder by March 3—all at a price of \$1.50 per page for the lot. Later in the evening the contract drafted by the committee was approved and signed.

Central Power Co. Wants More Concessions.

Slight changes suggested by the bankers are incorporated in a franchise draft submitted by the Central Power Co., Inc., for the approval of the aldermen. Charles H. Thompson, the general manager, in addressing the aldermen, expressed his belief that the changes will not bar the way to closing negotiations for the franchise that will permit the company to extend its power lines from East Middlebury to Barre. The slight changes enumerated by the manager refer to a clause which would declare the franchise null and void, instead of penalizing the company \$1,000, if the line is not completed in 1920. Another change, modified by the same adjective, is appended to the original franchise in the form of a clause which reserves for the company the right to appeal to the public service commission at any time if any of the clauses are unsatisfactory.

Mr. Thompson's advances were dismissed until next week, at least, when Alderman Healy moved that his communication, with the enclosure, be referred to the city attorney.

Warrants were approved for payment as follows:

Street department payroll, \$281.41; street, sidewalk and health accounts; water department payroll, \$44.62; fire department payroll, \$127.85; police department payroll, \$92.14; treasurer, cash paid out on street superintendent's orders, \$28.42; G. A. Bemis, \$14, services as city hall janitor.

On the favorable report of the building inspector, Greason & Lane were given a permit to erect a roof over their crane trestle in Burnham's meadow. The following wiring permits were issued at the instance of the wiring inspector: Montpelier & Barre Light & Power Co., to install eight meters; James Sactor & Co., motor; city of Barre, exhaust fan for Beckley street schoolhouse; Canton Bros., to wire for motor connections; H. K. Bush, to install fixture at 28 Church street; A. P. Abbott, floor receptacle on Delmont avenue; H. F. Cutler, wall receptacle in his residence; Vincilia club, to hang three fixtures; H. F. Cutler & Son, to change switch; George Murray, to install fixture; F. D. Ladd, to install fixture; James Long, to install dome; A. A. Lamorey, to install fixture; Thomas Stacy, lights in new house.

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